

U.S.S.N. 09/815,981
DEJONG *et al.*
AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 3, 9, 10, 16 and 30 with amended claims 1, 3, 9, 10, 16 and 30 as follows (a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached to this Amendment):

1. (Amended) A method for detecting or determining delivery and expression of a nucleic acid introduced into a cell comprising:

introducing labelled large nucleic acid molecules that encode a reporter gene into cells;

detecting labelled cells as an indication of delivery of the nucleic acid into a cell; and

measuring the product of the reporter gene as an indication of DNA expression in the cell, whereby delivery and expression of nucleic acid molecules in the cell is detected or determined.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the labelled cells are detected by flow cytometry.

9. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of introducing labelled large nucleic acid molecules comprises contacting the nucleic acid molecules with a delivery agent that comprises a cationic compound.

10. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of N-[1-(2,3-dioleyloxy)propyl]-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride (DOTMA), dioleoylphosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE), 2,3-dioleyloxy-N-[2(spermine-carboxamido)ethyl]-N,N-dimethyl-1-propanaminiumtrifluoroacetate (DOSPA), $C_{52}H_{106}N_6O_4 \bullet 4CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{88}H_{178}N_8O_4S_2 \bullet 4CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{40}H_{84}NO_3P \bullet CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{50}H_{103}N_7O_3 \bullet 4CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{55}H_{116}N_8O_2 \bullet 6CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{49}H_{102}N_6O_3 \bullet 4CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{44}H_{89}N_5O_3 \bullet 2CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{41}H_{78}NO_8P$, $C_{100}H_{206}N_{12}O_4S_2 \bullet 8CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{162}H_{330}N_{22}O_9 \bullet 13CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{43}H_{88}N_4O_2 \bullet 2CF_3CO_2H$, $C_{43}H_{88}N_4O_3 \bullet 2CF_3CO_2H$ and (1-methyl-4-(1-octadec-9-enyl-nonadec-10-enylenyl) pyridinium chloride.